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WORKING CONDITIONS, AND TRADE

PLUNGE FACTORY OPERATES POORLY -- Sovetskaya Litva, 11 Jan 50

Not long ago, the Plunge district newspaper, Sotsialistinis Kyalyas, published a notice written by workers of the Liny Audinyay factory revealing facts about the poor marketing of the factory's products. The government has suffered a loss of about 2 million rubles from this enterprise.

One of the main reasons for the unprofitable work is the low productivity of labor. During 1949, the weaving shop fulfilled its plan by only 66 percent and the spinning shop by 86 percent. The factory is neither developing Stakhanovite work nor popularizing the experience of outstanding workers. Although measures to improve work were discussed at party and trade union meetings, the matter has never gone beyond the discussion stage. Many who spoke at the meetings severely criticized Kuginis, the director of the Liny Audinyay factory. The criticism was always ineffective, however, since Kuginis, being neither a Party nor trade union member, never attends the meetings.

During the past 2 years, the Bureau of the Plunge Uyezd Party Committee has heard the reports of the factory and the Party organization directors eight times without taking action. Kuginis, moreover, continues to conduct his business at the enterprise in his own fashion. Although the Ministry of Local Industry is aware of this situation, nothing is done about it.

During 1950, the workers of the factory must expand production so as to fulfill the increases provided for by the new plan. The factory will receive new workers who must be taught to use the equipment. But these tasks will not be fulfilled unless the Plunge Uyezd Party Committee and the Ministry of Light Industry keep a closer check on the factory and the workers cooperate in establishing better conditions and order at the factory.

INSPECTORS HELP REDUCE WASTE -- Zarya Vostoka, 3 Dec 49

The stamping shop of the Tbilisi Shoe Factory imeni L. Beriia has 15 technical inspectors. Each inspector in the factory is assigned to a certain section with a definite number of workers.

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SECRET

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Since its introduction, technical inspection has played a large role in lowering wastage of materials. The inspectors' responsibility has recently been increased. When inspectors detect wastage of material, they show the young workers how to avoid this wastage and how to attain a high quality of work. Special guiders which were recently completed have also aided the young workers.

On the initiative of inspectors, technical schooling for young workers has been carried on. The result is that the amount of waste has been reduced two times. It has not, however, been eliminated. Aided by the proper equipment, inspectors can raise the quality of shoes. The role of inspectors should be extended further. -- P. Markelova, Inspector, Stamping Shop of the Tbilisi Shoe Factory imeni L. Beriia

FAULTY VENTILATION SYSTEMS AT LINEN COMBINES -- Trud, 6 Jan 50

About 2 months ago, an open letter written by the textile workers of the Vologda Linen Combine to Bol'shakov, chief of the Main Administration of the Linen Industry, was published in Trud. The textile workers wrote that the ventilation equipment was stopped up and that the dusty conditions in the linen combines, including the combing factory, hindered Stakhanovite work. Bol'shakov, in an answer to the textile workers, admitted that it had been proper for them to send the letter of criticism to the main administration and made arrangements to improve labor conditions at the combine. The ventilation system at this enterprise is now better.

The significance of the problem touched upon by the Vologda Textile workers goes far beyond the limits of their enterprises. It might be expected that the Main Administration of the Linen Industry and its directors would themselves have become interested in the condition of ventilation systems at other factories. This, however, did not happen. For this reason, it is not surprising that complaints directed at the Main Administration of the Linen Industry continue, since it does not show proper consideration for labor conditions.

Workers of the Krasnaya Tekstil'shchitsa Linen Combine write that they have given up hope of receiving the new ventilation system which has been under discussion for 3 years, but merely want the Main Administration of the Linen Industry to aid them in acquiring one ball bearing No 11318 or No 11316 with a bushing in order to improve the existing low-powered ventilation equipment. This is the fourth year, they add, that they have received only promises.

This is not the only such example. Enterprises in Yaroslavl, among them the Tul'ma and Zarya Sotsializma, are also having trouble with ventilation systems. At a plenum meeting recently held in Yaroslavl, Assistant Director Druzhinin indicated by his speech that the directors of the linen enterprises still do not understand the seriousness of the question of ventilation. Druzhinin was unable to say anything definite about the measures undertaken to improve the ventilation system.

Drawing the proper conclusions from the letter written by the linen workers, the Main Administration of the Linen Industry and its chief, Bol'shakov, should make every effort to improve the existing situation.

LENINGRAD MARKETS OPERATE POORLY -- Leningradskaya Pravda, 29 Nov 49

Thousands of kolkhoz workers come daily to the Leningrad markets to sell meat, fish, butter, waterfowl, eggs, honey, fruit, vegetables, and potatoes. The Kuznets, Mal'tsev, and Oktyabr' markets are especially popular among the kolkhoz workers for trade because of their location very near the railroad stations. Yet, it is at these markets that trouble occurs most often.

- 2 -

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

50X1-HUM

Venders are frequently kept waiting in lines outdoors in the cold from 0900 hours until 1400 hours, and when allowed to enter the market, are limited in number to only five to eight people at one time in an area which could easily accommodate 80-100 persons. Furthermore, there is no place to drink a cup of tea or to warm up. Kolkhoz workers have written about this to the directors of the markets, but so far nothing has been done to satisfy their demands. It is necessary to see that steps are taken to remedy the situation. Trade at the markets should be regulated, tearooms opened, and work at control points organized so that the whole process will take only a minimum of time.

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- 3 -

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